

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-8, 10-12, 14-15 and 17-21 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 9, 13, 16 as follows:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A bracket device according to~~
~~The step as claimed in claim 2 when dependant on claim 2~~ 13,
wherein said wedge member includes a channel adapted to encompass
said flange portion of said main member.

Claims 10-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A step for attachment to a
utility pole having a thin wall section ~~which comprises, said step~~
comprising:

a main member having a step member with a flange portion
formed at a proximal end thereof, and a single attachment means
portion integral with said step member extending from a face of
said flange portion and terminated in ~~a~~ an upwardly oriented hook
which in use ~~engages within~~ extends through an aperture provided in
a wall of said thin walled section, and

a wedge member which is adapted to slide in a transverse relation to said attachment ~~means~~ portion and interpose between said flange and said thin walled section, and abut against a face of said flange portion when in a locking position, to ~~thereby be~~ driven downward to create a compressive force between said hook and said wedge member with said thin walled section therebetween to hold said step member in place.

Claims 14-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A wedge member for a bracket device comprising a main body formed with an enclosed slot, and having an inner face and an outer face inclined relative to each other at an angle of from 3.5 to 5 degrees, said inner face and said outer face each being formed with a concave channel of substantially the same shape in cross section along a full length thereof.

Claims 17-23 (Cancelled)

Please add new claims 24 and 25 as follows:

24 (New) The step as claimed in claim 13, wherein said wedge member comprises a body formed with an enclosed slot, and has

an inner face and an outer face inclined relative to each other at an angle of from 3.5 to 5 degrees, said inner face and said outer face each being formed with a concave channel of substantially the same shape in cross section along a full length thereof.

25. (New) The step as claimed in claim 13, wherein said wedge member is tapered from a first end to a second end and includes a slot extending substantially between the ends of sufficient dimension to accommodate said attachment portion of said main member therethrough.
